

## House Republican Press Release

February 23, 2005  
Press Office: 860-240-8700

### **Rep. Tymniak Supports Ethics Reform Bill, Urges Quick Passage**



State Rep. Cathy C. Tymniak, R-133<sup>rd</sup>, Fairfield, Westport, has voted in committee for a sweeping state and local government ethics reform bill and urged passage by the full state House and Senate. The Government Administration and Elections Committee approved the bill today, February 23, 2005.

“This legislation closes some major gaps in state law regarding gifts, financial gain and corruption by state and local officials,” said Rep. Tymniak. “It is overdue and should be adopted as soon as possible.”

“Many of Governor Jodi Rell’s reform initiatives are included in the bill,” said Rep. Tymniak, “and the bill has support from both Republicans and Democrats.”

For state officials, the bill bans virtually all gifts, prohibits them from appearing for pay before any state agency, tightens the one-year ban on accepting a job with a state contractor, and allows judge to reduce or revoke pension benefits for corrupt officials.

For local government, the bill requires cities and towns to adopt an ethics code, ban gifts to local officials from people who have a matter before them, prohibits voting on matters that benefit officials or family members individually and forbids using public office for personal gain.

The bill would require limited financial disclosure by some city and town elected officials to disclose their outside financial interests, though no dollar amounts.

Rep. Tymniak said the ethics bill is one of several under consideration by the legislature including reforms of the state contracting system, state campaign finance laws and the makeup of the state ethics commission.

Rep. Tymniak serves the 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District of Fairfield and Westport in the state House of Representatives.